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EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

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Reproduced below are comments made during the swearing-in ceremony of E. Henry Knoche as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence on 7 July 1976:

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF E. HENRY KNOCHE AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. Bush:

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a very special occasion. To Mr. Buchen, from the White House, we welcome you, sir. [redacted] my predecessor Bill Colby, it's good to see you back where you belong, as the old song goes. To other distinguished guests, and particular reference to Mrs. Knoche and other members of the Knoche family, who are here today. Hank has been nominated by the President; confirmed, after a spectacular performance on the Hill, unanimously by the United States Senate; and he's now to embark on a new job in conformity with the new Executive Order. Other Deputies that have preceded him have done a magnificent job for this Agency in different times and in different ways, and I would be remiss if I didn't look back at the same time as we look ahead and if I didn't pay my respects to General Walters who, unfortunately, couldn't be with us today but who did a magnificent job for this Agency. I'm grateful to him, but none of Hank's predecessors has been charged by Presidential Executive Order to perform the management tasks of the Central Intelligence Agency that now are his. I know him well enough; I know Hank Knoche well enough to know that he will have the support of everyone in this Agency. I am confident I speak for [redacted] and I see [redacted] here and others in the Intelligence Community--when I say that they and I know Hank well enough to know that he will have the full support of others in the entire Community as he takes on his new job responsibilities here at CIA. And so this is indeed a very special day for this Agency and for the Intelligence Community. This man has given 23 years of his life to the Central Intelligence Agency. He has performed magnificently, and I expect that the future will be the same as the past in this regard; and I know I speak for all of you who have worked with Hank as we welcome him to his new job. With no further ado, we will now proceed with the administering of the oath of office.

(To Mr. Knoche): Raise your right hand and put your hand on the Bible.

Mr. Knoche:

I, E. Henry Knoche, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office which I am about to enter, so help me God.

Mr. Bush:

You're in.

Mr. Knoche:

Director Bush, Mrs. Bush, Mr. Buchen, the Colbys, [REDACTED] my family, friends, guests, and, above all, my colleagues in the CIA.

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I am honored by the trust placed in me for this responsibility. I want to do this job well--out of a conviction that our intelligence activities are vital to our Government's ability to keep the peace. I am proud to be a career professional of the Central Intelligence Agency, one who comes from the ranks of the splendid men and women who carry out difficult assignments in gathering information and describing international situations and prospects to help the President and his advisors make sound foreign policy.

This great Agency and its people have endured an ordeal over the past 18 months and have frequently been victimized by unfounded allegations and exaggerations. Their discipline, professionalism and productivity never flagged during that period, however. During that time, our Government and our society were engaged in forming new judgments about the nature of American intelligence. And now, as we in the intelligence profession adjust to new guidelines and new oversight arrangements, we enter a new era with firm resolve to improve our performance, at the same time with full regard for the law and the constitutional rights of American citizens.

As you have said, Mr. Director, to create the new future we must learn from the past. But we will not and cannot dwell in the past. We will move to meet our future; we will not merely await it.

Ours in CIA will be a quest for excellence--excellence in the integrity and moral qualities of our intelligence personnel; excellence in the design of intelligence collection methods and in the conduct of intelligence operations; excellence, above all, in the analysis of information and the production of objective, relevant intelligence judgments for the benefit of those who make our foreign policy.

We seek excellence, too, in a new spirit of cooperation with the Congress and its intelligence oversight bodies. The Congress will benefit from the knowledge of international situations that CIA can and will impart. In the process, we will seek the support and understanding of intelligence by the American public.

But let it be said, too, that intelligence activities require secrecy, lest unnecessary disclosures allow a potential adversary to take steps to close off our information and blind us to his intentions. We need Congressional and public understanding of this need for secrecy, too.

STAT Mr. Director, I willingly tackle this assignment and will do my best to help you to accomplish these objectives. I will at your request, and in accordance with the President's Executive Order of February past, concentrate now on the day-to-day management of CIA. But the success of all of us in the intelligence profession depends on the concerted efforts of the entire Intelligence Community. CIA, as a major component of that Community, will work closely with the other intelligence elements of the Government. I personally will work to that end with your Deputy for the Intelligence Community.

Mr. Director, I am honored by this task. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessors in this post who have done so much so well in the past. Now we confront the future and I will give it all I have -- out of a deep sense of responsibility and accountability to you, to the President and his advisors, to the Congress, and to the public at large.

I thank you, sir, most respectfully.

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